

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT Weekly OB Summary

REPORT

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BY CABLE

The following is a summary of Soviet and KVP military activities observed prior to 13 December.

A. Soviet

1. General: Dischargees continued to move out until 5 December. There were additional shipments of equipment under the reorganization program of artillery units.

2. Training and Personnel:

- a. In late November, 80 apartments in Arnstadt were vacated, allegedly to be occupied by Soviet dependents from Ohrdruf. On 20 November, a unit equipped with twelve 37-mm anti-aircraft guns, 15 trucks and disassembled barracks was entrained at Chemnitz. Between 21 November and 5 December, Camp Schwepnitz was vacant, and there was no training activity at Koenigsbrueck. The unidentified engineer regiment previously observed at Bautzen was found absent from its post on 30 November. On 1 December, a third shipment carried elements of a GSFG signal unit from Potsdam to Leipzig-Wiederitzsch.¹ On 21 November, a tank detail of the 18th Mechanized Division returned to Parchim from the Wittstock training grounds.² On 1 December, 25 armored personnel carriers, coming from the direction of Bernau, passed northward through Eberswalde.
- b. Between 23 November and 5 December, four troop shipments went via Cottbus to the USSR. On 26 November and 5 December, two troop shipments from the USSR arrived at Frankfurt/Oder. Movement of personnel in both directions via Kuestrin ended on about 30 November. Because of railroad repair work at Kuestrin, other traffic in the area dropped also. Eight full troop shuttle trains were observed going to the east.

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#").

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3. Arms Shipments:

On 23 November, four railroad cars loaded with ten 57-mm anti-tank guns went from Frankfurt/Oder to Jueterbog. On 24 November, a shipment of 40 x 152-mm gun howitzers came from Frankfurt/Oder and passed through Satz Korn. On 26 November, 17 x 100-mm anti-tank guns and five 152-mm field howitzers were loaded on railroad cars at the East Station in Koenigsbrueck by a unit from Neues Lager. On 1 December, eight 85-mm anti-tank guns were entrained at Binz on Ruegen island. Also on 1 December, a shipment of about 30 anti-tank guns, two thirds of them 100-mm and one third 57-mm weapons, went toward Fuerstenwalde from the direction of Berlin-Ostkreuz.

B. East German

1. General:

No changes were observed prior to 5 December. The troop training grounds at Weisswasser and Ferchels-Mahlitz were vacant.

2. Units and Personnel:

One new Grenzbereitschaft was allegedly being activated in Aschersleben, and another in Eisenach. Field Marshal Paulus was still in Dresden.

3. Construction:

Only about 80 per cent of the construction projects scheduled in the area of the Mechanized Division Eggesin for the year 1954 have been completed. Difficulties in obtaining labor and material are said to be the reason.

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